

UTILITY PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/716,912 Confirmation No. 6412
Applicant : Robert J. Atmur et al.
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300.

on DEC. 13, 2005 Signature: *Mark M. Takahashi*
Mark M. Takahashi

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.